

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8651

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

UNCLAS MEXICO 5859

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MX, PN, CU

SUBJECT: RABASA COMMENTS ON PANAMA, SAN JOSE MEETING

1. FOREIGN SECRETARY EMILIO RABASA TOLD PRESS JUNE 30 THAT MEXICO REITERATES ITS SUPPORT FOR "THE JUST DEMANDS" OF PANAMA IN RELATION TO THE CANAL. HE NOTED THAT THE GOM HAS TAKEN A CLEAR AND DEFINITE POSITION ON THIS MATTER NOT ONLY AT THE BOGOTA MEETINGS BUT ALSO AT THOSE IN WASHINGTON.

2. ON THE FORTHCOMING OAS MEETING ON RIO TREATY IN SAN JOSE, RABASA CAREFULLY QUALIFIED HIS STATEMENTS. HE SAID THT OAS MEMBERS ARE NOT DISPOSED TO LIFT THE SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA BY A MAJORITY INSTEAD OF A TWO-THIRDS VOTE. MEXICO IS SEARCHING FOR A FORMULA FOR LIFTING THE SANCTIONS WITHOUT WAITING FOR THE RATIFICATION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE RIO TREATY BY ALL ITS MEMBERS, A PROCESS WHICH COULD TAKE TWO OR MORE YEARS. FOR THIS REASON, HE ADDED, MEXICO HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE IN CONTACT WITH VARIOUS OTHER COUNTRIES, BUT AS OF THE MOMENT, THE SITUATION IS RATHER INPRECISE.

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